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failing courtesy and his unwearied zeal in the best interests of historical research will always endear his memory to all with whom he was brought in contact, and to all who still have those interests at heart.

JOHN BARBEE MINOR, LL. D., for fifty years Professor of Law in the University of Virginia, died at his home at the University on July 29, 1895, in the eighty-third year of his age. He was born in Louisa county, Virginia, June 2, 1813, the son of Launcelot Minor, and the youngest of nine children. He attended the neighborhood schools until about the age of sixteen, when he was sent to Kenyon College, walking the entire distance in the company of a young kinsman. In January, 1831, he entered the University of Virginia, where he remained for three sessions, graduating in several of the academic schools, and finally, in June, 1834, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Law. His teacher in the school of law in which he was destined to win such distinction was Professor John A. G. Davis, the second occupant of that chair; and during his whole course as a student at the University he taught school in the family of Prof. Davis. After his graduation he began the practice of his profession at Buchanan in Botetourt county, Virginia. After about six years at the Botetourt bar, he moved to Charlottesville and formed a partnership with his brother, Lucian Minor, afterwards professor of law in the College of William and Mary. In 1845, at the age of thirty-two, he was elected to the professorship of law in the University of Virginia. From the time of his appointment until 1851, he was the sole teacher of law at the University. In the latter year, James P. Holcombe was appointed Adjunct Professor of Law, and the classes were increased from two to three; three years later Mr. Holcombe was made full professor, and in 1856, the course was expanded into two departments of two classes each, Mr. Minor becoming professor of common and statute law, and this form was continued until very recent years, when great and important changes were made in the course. During the period of the civil war, he again maintained the entire burden of the law school, but was relieved of the double duty in 1866 by the appointment of an additional teacher. In 1870 he began his private "Summer Course of Law Lectures," extending over two months of the University vacation, which have become so popular with beginners and practitioners of all ages. The class of 1874 numbered twenty members, and from that time the numbers rapidly increased to an average attendance of about ninety in recent years, attaining in 1892 to a maximum of one hundred and twenty-one. This was the first course of the kind ever offered in this country, and was the pioneer of the numerous summer schools which have become a feature of so many of our universities and colleges.

For many years after the beginning of his career at the University a skeleton analysis of each lecture was written by him on the blackboard, and thence copied by the class; for some years prior to 1875, these were

lithographed, to the great relief of both teacher and pupils. In the latter years the first and second volumes of the "Institutes of Common and Statute Law" were published. Their fourth edition appeared in 1891 and 1892. In 1878 the first edition of the fourth volume was published, and its third edition in 1893, in two parts. The third volume was delayed, being first issued in instalments in pamphlet form for the use of his classes, but finally, in 1895, being completed in two books and issued as a second edition. In 1894 he published in one volume an "Exposition of the Law of Crimes and Punishments."

Of that great work, the "Institutes," it is not necessary to speak more particularly here. Undertaken originally with the purpose of presenting in print a mere tabular analysis of his course of instruction, intended primarily for the use of his own students, and put forth so modestly in 1875, it has passed through edition after edition, has become indispensable to the Virginia lawyer, and is cited as authority in all the courts, including the Federal Supreme Court.

It is probable that his superior as a teacher of law has never lived. It is not the voice of affection or flattery merely that has so declared; it is the deliberate judgment of mature minds that have reflected on the subject. Certain it is that in the great work of his life he achieved a success unparalleled in any age or country. Much of that success was undoubtedly due to his method of instruction, the salient feature of which was the analytical system of Hale and Blackstone, which was carried by him far beyond anything ever before attempted.

No sketch of Mr. Minor would be complete that failed to mention his love for the University of Virginia and his devotion to all its interests. These were manifested on more than one occasion when almost the very existence of the institution seemed at stake. Thus, during the war, on the occasion of Sheridan's march from the Valley, it was only after the most persistent personal efforts of Mr. Minor and his colleague, the late Dr. Maupin, that a guard of Federal soldiers were secured to prevent the pillage and not improbable burning of the buildings; the two professors meanwhile leaving their families unprotected from the annoyances and depredations of the stragglers and camp-followers. Again, in the summer of 1865, when the University treasury was empty, the buildings in great dilapidation and reported throughout the country as actually and totally destroyed (having been confounded with the Virginia Military Institute, which had been burned by the Federal soldiery), and when the gloom of those troubled times had settled over Faculty and Visitors alike, the latter having adjourned in despair, Mr. Minor and Dr. Maupin again came to the rescue, and alone, in their own names and on their own credit, borrowed from a bank in Charlottesville the money necessary for systematic and extensive advertising, and to make the needed repairs (which they superintended in person), and in other ways to prepare for the session of 1865-'66. They were rewarded for their diligence

and self-sacrifice by a matriculation list of more than four hundred students; and so well did they manage the affairs of the session that they paid back the money they had borrowed, paid all the current expenses, and handed over a surplus to the Board of Visitors when they met again in June, 1866.

His faculties were wonderfully preserved to the very last. A well-spent life had brought him its richest reward—a mature old age, a perfect ripeness without decay, and with all life's longings and restlessness calmed into peace that was perfect and satisfied. He died at his post, as he would have desired. He taught through the last session of the University, and had begun his summer course when the summons came.

J. C. L.

MISS M. G. MCCLELLAND was born on the 5th of August, at Norwood, Nelson county, Va. Her father, Thomas Stanhope McClelland, was the eldest son of T. S. McClelland and his wife, Margaret Cabell, of Union Hill. Her mother was Miss Maria Louisa Graf, eldest daughter of Frederick C. Graf, of Baltimore. Miss McClelland lived where she was born, in Nelson, until she was about two years old, when her father and mother moved to Elm Cottage, Buckingham county. There she lived and grew to womanhood.

Her first printed productions were some dialect poems in the Louisville *Courier-Journal*. Her first book was "Oblivion," which was published in 1885. This was followed quickly by "Princess," "Jean Monteith," "Burkett's Lock," "Madam Silva," "A Self-Made Man," "Ten Minutes to Twelve," "The White Heron," "Eleanor Gwyne," "The Nameless Novel," "Broadoaks," "The Old Post Road," "The Wonder Witch," "Manitou Island," "Mammy Mystic," and "St. John's Wooing." She also wrote a number of short stories, which have come out in different magazines.

Miss McClelland wrote rapidly, but always put the best of herself in her works. As an author she was one to be admired; but where she was most attractive was in her quiet home life, being always bright and sunny—always ready to lend a helping hand where ever it was needed. Her professions were few, but her deeds of kindness and devotion were many. She was the most loving of daughters, the truest and most loyal of sisters, and the warmest of friends. She was taken ill the first part of January, 1895, and during the seven months of her illness, no one heard an impatient word from her. Through all her suffering she had a little smile and a "thank you" for who ever did anything for her. Her death occurred at "Elm Cottage," on the second of August, 1895.

A. L. M.